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## APPLICANTS

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\*\* CONTINUING DATA ..... *YES SD*  
 This application is a DIV of 09/739,646 12/20/2000 PAT 6,628,599

\*\* FOREIGN APPLICATIONS ..... *YES SD*  
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Foreign Priority claimed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	STATE OR COUNTRY JAPAN	SHEETS DRAWING 12	TOTAL CLAIMS 8	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 1
35 USC 119 (a-d) conditions met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> Met after Allowance	Examiner's Signature <i>[Signature]</i>	Initials <i>SD</i>		
Verified and Acknowledged				

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## TITLE

Variable optical element, a pickup apparatus having the variable optical element, and an information recording and reproducing apparatus having the pickup apparatus

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